

**CITY OF REDMOND**  
**2017 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

***Top Priority Issues***

- **Connecting Washington Transportation Projects:**

- Expedite Funding for the Overlake Access Ramp - \$68M***

- Connecting Washington funding for this project does not begin until 2019 and is spread out over 3 biennia. In 2012, the Legislature appropriated \$2.5M for preliminary engineering, which is scheduled for completion in June 2017.

- The City is seeking to expedite project funding as follows:

- 2017-2019: Final Engineering and Right-of-Way (ROW), \$40.7M
    - 2019-2021: Construction, \$27.3M

- Expedite Funding for the SR 520 Regional Trail Grade Separation at 40<sup>th</sup> Street - \$8.6M***

- Connecting Washington provided \$2.4M in 2015-2017 and \$8.6M in “future biennia” for this project. The City is seeking this funding in the 2017-2019 Transportation Budget. Preliminary engineering is anticipated to be substantially complete and Right-of-Way acquired by June 2017, and the remainder of the funding is needed to complete the project.

- **Affordable Housing:** Redmond will actively work with the Association of Washington Cities, and other jurisdictions and stakeholders to increase the supply of affordable housing and the level of affordability in communities across the Puget Sound Region. Towards this end, the City will actively seek options to increase supply and increase funding, including:

- State Housing Trust Fund: Significantly increase funding in the 2017-2019 Capital Budget.
    - Document Recording Fee: Extend and increase the surcharge for affordable housing.

- **Fund and Safeguard State Revenues to Better Enable Cities to Address Community Needs:** Redmond will join the Association of Washington Cities, cities, counties and others to:

- Property Tax Limitation: Adjust the 1% annual growth limitation on property tax under Initiative 747 to an inflationary index that better allows governments to keep pace with their costs.
  - Liquor Profit Revenues: Remove the statutory cap on liquor revolving account (“liquor profit”) revenues distributed to cities and counties, with a set-aside of restored funds for criminal justice and public safety.
  - FAST Act Revenue: Revise the distribution of federal *Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act* funding from 64% for state highways and 34% for local transportation (roads, bridges, transit, ferries & non-motorized) to a more equitable distribution between state and local governments.
  - Infrastructure Funding: Develop proposals for financing basic infrastructure in local communities, including water, sewer, stormwater, and transportation (Public Works Assistance Account, Model Toxics Control Act, and WA Wildlife and Recreation Program and others).
  - “State-Shared” Revenues and Operating/Capital Budgets: Protect “state-shared” revenues and fund programs that are critical for Redmond and other local governments:
    - Basic Law Enforcement Academy Training (BLEA)
    - Municipal Services Research Center (MSRC)
    - Fraud/Identity Theft Prevention Task Forces
    - Auto Theft Prevention Program
    - Capital Improvements to the Fire Training Academy in North Bend

## ***Support/Oppose Issues***

### ***General Government***

- Human services, mental health and homelessness: Support initiatives to add services, shelters, and beds to help local communities address growing mental health and homelessness problems. Advance the Redmond Community Homelessness Task Force recommendations, including DSHS/Workforce Development Council job training/placement, mental health system funding, easier access to Community Housing Grant (CHG) and Housing Support Program (HSP) funds, and preserving the Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) program. In addition, Redmond supports the Eastside Human Services Forum (EHSF) legislative agenda.
- Public Records Act (PRA): Redmond is committed to public records openness and transparency. Redmond, along with the AWC and others, supports modest reforms of the PRA to:
  - Provide an alternative dispute resolution option for resolving conflicts over burdensome requests.
  - Enable cost recovery for requests of electronic records and for records that will be used for a commercial purpose.
  - Ensure a request for “all” or “substantially all” of an Agency’s data-base or records does not constitute an identifiable record.
  - Incentivize public agencies to use web-based and open-portal tools to provide public records
- Hi-Tech Industry: The City and the Washington Tech Cities Coalition (WTC<sup>2</sup>) support initiatives that enhance competitiveness and invest in education and infrastructure to support hi-tech. These initiatives include, but are not limited to targeted Research and Development (R&D) tax incentives that can help our state keep growing sectors such as space, bio-medical and life sciences.
- Pension enhancements and system mergers: Redmond opposes pension enhancements or mergers of pension systems that would add new costs to local government.

### ***Environment***

- State “Product Stewardship” program: Support adding new elements to the program, which uses manufacturer-financed initiatives to encourage environmentally responsible recycling of items.
- “Waters of the State” proposal: Ensure that any proposed infrastructure investment package for water supply, stormwater, and flood control ensures equity between where taxes and fees are collected and where they are invested.
- WRIA 8 and Related Funding: Support funding for habitat, floodplain and watershed projects.

### ***Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice***

- Property crimes: Address the rapid rise in property crimes occurring in the City and state by providing a comprehensive legislative approach that blends increased penalties with better support services for low-level repeat offenders.
- Driving Under the Influence (DUI): Support legislation to make the fourth DUI offense a felony. Under current state law, DUI offenses are not a felony until the fifth offense has been committed.
- Statewide re-licensing program for Driving While License Suspended (DWLS) offenders: Support a statewide re-licensing program to enable repeat offenders to pay back their fines over time, while allowing local jurisdictions that already have a re-licensing program to maintain their program.

## CITY OF REDMOND

### 2017 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

#### **Guiding Principles:**

The City has adopted the following principles to guide the City's Legislative Agenda:

- **Protect home rule and local authority:** The Legislature should refrain from pre-empting the authority of local cities and communities which are closest to the citizens they serve.
- **Refrain from imposing unfunded or "under-funded" mandates:** It is important that the Legislature refrain from imposing new unfunded or "under-funded" mandates upon local jurisdictions unless there is adequate funding provided to implement them.
- **The state should not erode local revenues and local taxing authority:** As "creatures of the state," cities in Washington have only the taxing and revenue authority directly provided to them by the State Legislature. It is vital that lawmakers refrain from making decisions that erode or eliminate those revenues and the local taxing authority that is given to cities.
- **The state should preserve Operating, Capital, and Transportation budget funding that flows to cities:** Redmond urges the Legislature to refrain from cutting or eliminating operational and infrastructure funding for Redmond and other cities.
- **The Legislature should reward jurisdictions that step up to implement the policy goals developed by the state, as it exercises its decision-making, particularly in grant and loan programs:** Redmond is an example of a city doing the right things to implement the Growth Management Act (GMA), accommodate density, ensure the urban centers of downtown and Overlake are conducive to "transit-oriented" and pedestrian-friendly development, embrace "green building", climate-change and Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) strategies, etc. As it makes funding and policy decisions regarding grant and loan programs, the state should find ways to reward jurisdictions, such as Redmond, that carry out and embrace these policy objectives.